

School Health Advisory Committee Annual Report

Tasks as assigned by the Board of Health in section 37.350 (d) of the rules governing the School Health Advisory Committee:

- 1) the committee shall advise the board concerning:
 - A) the development of a data collection model to compile basic information about school health services in the state; and
 - B) relevant issue based on the data collected to coordinate and improve school health services including health promotion.

The School Health Advisory Committee met on the following dates:

September 11, 2000
 October 5, 2000
 November 3, 2000
 January 18, 2001

February 8, 2001
 April 19, 2001, and
 June 14, 2001

Attendance sheet for the School Health Advisory Committee Members

Member	# of meetings	Meetings attended	Attendance Rate (%)
Alma Golden ²	7	7	100%
Ann Sims ²	7	6	85%
Gustavo Bendeck	7	0	0%
Cathy Harris ²	7	5	71%
Selenda Cumby	7	1	14%
Ramón Orduño	7	6	85%
Kathi Seay	7	4	57%
Danitca Shanahan	7	0	0%
Michelle Smith ^{1, 2} Vice-chair of committee	7	7	100%
Michael Hinojosa ¹	7	6	85%
Charles Meisgeier ²	7	4	57%
Tommy Fleming	7	7	100%
Jenni Jennings ²	7	5	71%
Ruth Stewart – Chair of committee	7	7	100%
Linda Thune	7	1	14%
Jane Tustin ²	7	7	100%

1 – Chair of a subcommittee

2 – Member of a subcommittee

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During these meetings the following tasks were accomplished by the committee and subcommittees:

- Committee was oriented and welcomed by TDH leadership. Ground rules and a mission statement were adopted
- The role of the staff and the role of committee members were clarified
- Through consensus, school health terms were defined (i.e. school health services, school-based health centers) for common understanding and clarification of committee tasks as defined in board rules
- Minutes were approved for each of the meetings, with minimal corrections
- Members were updated regularly on legislation or news topics that directly affected school health services
- Data from the School Health Services and Staffing Survey distributed to school districts the prior year were reviewed
- Considered information from the Youth Risk Behavior Survey by TDH Bureau of Disease Prevention and Tobacco Control for further analysis
- Advised staff to develop priority tasks, goals, and organized strategies for consideration by the committee
- Expressed interest in reviewing the American Academy of Pediatrics national guidelines on health, mental health and safety in schools when they are available in order to relate committee recommendations to the board to national guidelines
- Requested information from other states, including examples of model school health programs, from which the staff prepared a report on how other states support school health programming
- Formed two subcommittees:
 - 1) Action Plan sub-committee chaired by Michael Hinojosa. The Action Plan was later approved by the committee and is included with the annual report to the board;
 - 2) Survey sub-committee chaired by Michelle Smith. Focused on survey and data collection efforts with recommendations, pending committee approval in October
 - 3) Roles & Responsibilities sub-committee established
- Identified opportunities for interagency and stakeholder collaboration
- Met with Dr. Charles Bell, who charged the group to move forward, despite changes in TDH leadership
- Discussed and supported a joint application by TDH and the Texas Education Agency to the Center for Disease Control for technical assistance in pursuing infrastructure funds
- Met with the regional school health specialists for dialogue about priority health issues facing school districts and communities in each education service center region.

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The committee has evaluated the information obtained by the previous TDH Health Services and Staffing Survey and identified the need for further information. A suggested instrument and recommended schedule, being developed by a subcommittee, will be discussed at upcoming meetings. The committee has identified relevant issues concerning school health and has approved recommendations to the board via the TDH School Health Advisory Committee Action Plan.

The committee has not reviewed or recommended rules to the board at this time.


The committees anticipated activities are outlined in the Action Plan, and if supported by the BOH will:

- Continue data evaluation
- Develop recommendations for school health service delivery
- Collaborate with stakeholders and identify mutual support issues
- Raise public awareness
- Seek information connecting student health status with learning
- Suggest & clarify roles and responsibilities for school health personnel
- Develop training recommendations for unlicensed assistive personnel who provide health services in the school setting
- Develop a fiscal note for action items
- Develop a marketing tool to utilize in seeking foundation/grant funding
- Raise legal awareness of school staff regarding health issues
- Present coordinated school health information to professional groups
- Provide information to legislature and policy makers
- Develop a pool of information on best practice models of school health programming, advisory councils, issue papers

It is understood these activities must be approved by the BOH and implemented through TDH policy and procedure.

Costs related to supporting the committee activities		
ACTION	Per unit	Estimated costs
Percentage of staff time	School Health Staff (5) Facilitator	\$ 20,000.00
Average Xeroxing costs	\$0.15 /paper	\$ 576.00
Average fax costs	\$0.50/paper/transmission	\$ 30.00
Mailing costs	Per mail out	
	Overnight @ 4.74/pkg/member	\$ 523.04
	First class @ 3.50/pkg/member	\$ 392.00
	Certified mail @ 7.10/pkg/member	\$ 795.20
TOTAL COSTS:		\$ 22,316.24

Approved August 16, 2001


Ruth F. Stewart, MS, RNCS
Chair, School Health Advisory Committee